

# The stories of the men named on the monument are as varied as the story of Texas.

John Abston, Virginia soldier, was at the Battle of King's Mountain. After the war he emigrated first to Kentucky, then to Missouri. He came to Texas with son Jesse and family in 1853, settling in Collin County, and lived to the age of 92.

Bailey Anderson served in the South Carolina militia and as a spy during the American Revolution. In 1800, he served in the Kentucky State Legislature. He arrived in Texas in 1819 at the age of 61. In August 1832, he commanded a company at the Battle of Nacogdoches, and in 1835, he fought at the Siege of Bexar.

Benjamin Anderson served as a juror in South Carolina, during the Revolution, thus qualifying as a Revolutionary War patriot. A farmer, he died in 1853 in Nagodoches where he is buried in the Black Jack Cemetery.

Benjamin Clark came to Texas in 1819 at the age of 61, settling in Red River Co. He became a Methodist minister, riding the circuit. According to Brakebills's book (see list of resources), Clark's Bible bears the signatures of Sam Houston and Mirabeau B. Lamar.

James P. Collins was a volunteer in Moffett's Minute Men of South Carolina serving as rifleman and courier. After the War he enlisted in the militia fighting the Creek and the Cherokee. He came to Texas in 1838 to visit his daughter and son-in-law in Red River County and died in 1840.

Jose Antonio Curbelo was born in 1746 of Canary Island parents who had emigrated to Texas, and when Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Texas, Curbelo delivered 1,069 cattle to Bernardo de Galvez.

Joseph de la Baume, from France, fought with Lafayette in the American Revolution. In Louisiana he and two others built Fort Miro. By 1802 he had moved to Nacogdoches where he called himself a physician and herb doctor. Stephen F. Austin was his lawyer when he was imprisoned at the age of 82 in Bexar and his lands in the DeWitt Colony confiscated.

William Eakin was born in York District, South Carolina and served in Col. Hawthorn's Regiment of Volunteer Mounted Gunmen. Before coming to Texas, he lived in Illinois and Tennessee. The pension application of his wife, Elizabeth Eakin, attests

that William died on 11 July 1840 in San Augustine County.

Vicente Flores was born in 1757 in the Villa de San Fernando de Bexar, and by the 1770s he owned two of the ranchos in the San Antonio River valley, providing 1,258 head of cattle to Bernardo de Galvez.

William Gates was a North Carolina soldier. He came to Texas in 1821 after a stint in Kentucky and received a land grant of two sitios in 1824, settling near Washington-on-the Brazos. He is listed as one of Austin's "Old 300."

Henry Bailey Greenwood was a Quaker and thus did not serve as a soldier; however, his service as a juror in Virginia qualifies him for "patriotic" service. At the age of 74, he came to Texas with the Landrum, Shannon and Montgomery families.

Alexander Hodge arrived in Austin's Colony in 1826. His plantation, Hodge's Bend, near Fort Bend, was a favorite stopover for William B. Travis, Deaf Smith, and other famous Texans. At the age of 76, Hodge led the women and children in the Runaway Scrape.

Thomas Charles Holmes was an express rider in North Carolina and served with Francis Marion, "The Swamp Fox." He came to Texas before he was 30 and helped win her independence, dying in Newton County in 1855.

Zachariah Landrum received bounty lands in Georgia for his patriotic service and his service as a soldier in Georgia. He came to Texas with his wife and family and with other settlers, receiving a large Mexican Land Grant in 1831. He settled in Montgomery County and died there in 1833.

Abel Allison Lewis was in a horse unit, serving in both North and South Carolina. A farmer, he came to Texas in 1824 at the age of 63, settling in Panola County, where he received one league and one labor of land. He died in San Augustine County.

John Parker and his family came to Texas for religious freedom, establishing Fort Parker in Limestone Co. In the Spring of 1836, the massacre at Fort Parker took place. Cynthia Ann Parker, Elder John's granddaughter, was kidnapped by the Indians. She would become the mother of the remarkable Indian leader, Quanah Parker.

Charles Polk served in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina and came to Texas about 1836 at the age of 79 years old, settling in San Augustine County.

Robert Rankin joined the Virginia troops of the Continental Army, participating in the battles of Brandywine, Germantown in Pennsylvania, and the battle of Stony Point in New York. An original member of the Virginia Society of the Cincinnati, in 1835, he received a land grant in San Jacinto Co. He is buried in the Texas State Cemetery.

Patricio Antonio Rodrigues was born in San Antonio in 1748, the same year that his father, a soldier, was killed by Apaches. Patricio also became a soldier and assisted in the effort of providing cattle to Galvez in Louisiana.

George Ruddell served in Virginia and was captured by the British at Ruddell's Fort in 1780. A farmer, he came to Texas in 1834 at the age of 77, and received a land grant in what would become Cherokee County.

Francisco Manuel Salinas was born in 1752. He was a member of the Cavalry Company of the Royal Presidio of San Antonio de Bexar, under Governor Don Domingo Cabello. In 1782, Salinas participated in a cattle drive for Bernardo de Galvez by herding horses.

Pedro Xavier Salinas was confirmed in San Fernando Church, San Antonio de Bexar in 1759. He was a "cattle hunter" and provided cattle which were driven to Louisiana to aid the Colonists' cause.

Owen Shannon immigrated to Texas in 1821, settling the Montgomery area of Montgomery County with his wife Margaret. He is listed in Stephen F. Austin's *Register of Families* as being 70 years old when he arrived in Texas.

Peter Sides fought in the 2nd Battalion of South Carolina and by 1799 was living in Louisiana. He volunteered at the age of 61 to join the Magee-Guiterrez Expedition. Sides died in the Battle of Medina outside San Antonio in 1813, and a marker to him has been erected on that site.

William Smithers/Smothers was one of "The Old 300." He was a noted guide, woodsman, and Indian fighter. He reputedly spent a month on Galveston Island in 1810 at the age of 48. Smothers is on

record as coming to Texas in 1821 with Stephen F. Austin, and he and four other men built Fort Bend.

William Sparks served in North Carolina as a volunteer mounted rifleman. He came to Texas in 1836 at the age of 75, settling in Sparks Settlement, Nacogdoches County, dying after 1846.

Christopher Frederick Stockman of Maryland, served the American Revolution in South Carolina. In 1807, he was living with his family at Orcoquisac, an Indian village near the mouth of the Trinity River. Expulsed by the Spanish in 1812, he moved to Mobile, AL. After the successful Texas Revolution he returned to Nacogdoches County.

Richard Tice was a sailor and shipmaker who served in New Jersey, first as a fifer then as a private. His pension application is full of detail on his service. He moved to Texas around 1842 at the age of 80 years old to be with his only daughter in Washington County.

James Tinsley was from South Carolina and achieved the rank of Captain in the Revolution. He came to Texas in 1837, settling in Walker County where he died in 1844. His widow, Susan, filed a claim for a residual pension after his death.

Evan Thomas Watson of Virginia served five tours of duty in the Revolution. During his final tour, according to his pension application, he was present at the surrender of Cornwallis. He joined family members in Texas in 1833 and died in the original Red River County in 1834.

Benjamin Wightman's son, Elias, a surveyor for Stephen F. Austin, persuaded his parents to come by sea from NY. They landed at Matagorda Bay in early 1829, after surviving a storm that stranded the group of colonists at Aransas Pass for 6 days. He was the first burial in Matagorda.

Stephen Williams, a blacksmith by trade, served in three wars: first, the Revolutionary War, as a Sergeant in North Carolina; then, settling in Spanish Louisiana, he served in the War of 1812; finally, in 1835, at the age of 75, he participated in the siege of Bexar with four of his grandsons. He is buried in the Texas State Cemetery.

*laus Deo*



# Who Are the Men Named on the Monument?

Spy  
Sailor  
Tailor  
Soldier  
Farmer  
Quaker  
Lawyer  
Rancher  
Attorney  
Minister  
Blacksmith  
Militia Man  
Shipmaker  
Cattle Driver  
Express Rider  
Prisoner of War



A commemorative medal was struck in honor of the monument by the Texas Society.

## *Spanish Patriots*

During the years of the American Revolution, Spain supported the American Colonies in their war for independence against England.

Bernardo de Galvez, Governor of Louisiana (1777-1783), provided cattle to the American Colonies from Spanish lands in America. These cattle herds were driven to Louisiana from ranchos near San Antonio de Bexar. Land owners, vaqueros, and Spanish soldiers participated, thus supporting the cause of the American Revolution.

§

## *Anglo Colonists*

By 1810, Americans were coming into Texas, drawn by the lure of adventure, land, and economic opportunity. Many of them, when younger men, had been patriots of the American Revolution, either serving as soldiers or as civilian patriots.

In 1820, Moses Austin received permission from the Spanish government in Mexico City to colonize eastern and southeastern Texas. Upon the elder Austin's death, his son, Stephen F. Austin, took on the task. The colonists he brought in became known as "The Old 300." They settled mostly in eastern and southeastern Texas.

The TSDAR Patriot Monument was carefully designed ...

- Obelisk shape favored in the 19th c., honoring the Washington Monument in Washington, DC.
- Inscriptions honoring the men and their patriotism.
- Bronze wreath with soldier honoring the soldiers who served.
- A longhorn cattle herd honoring the Spanish contribution.
- Laos Deo (praise be to God), after the inscription on the Washington Monument in Washington, D.C.
- The monument is located at the foot of Cenotaph Hill.

## Resources

Brakebill, Clovis. ***American Revolutionary Soldiers Buried in Texas***, c. 1988. (This book is out of print, but many Texas libraries carry it.)

Thonhoff, Robert. ***The Texas Connection with the American Revolution***, 1981.

***Handbook of Texas On-line***: [www.tsha-online.org/handbook/online/](http://www.tsha-online.org/handbook/online/) (a publication of the Texas State Historical Association).

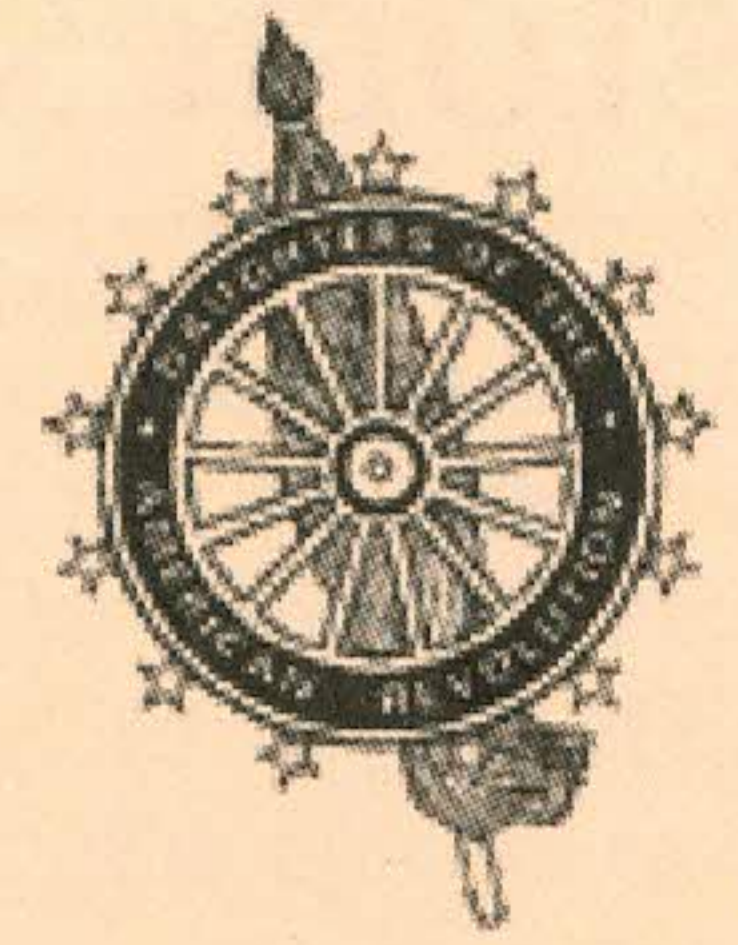
**Revolutionary War Pension Applications** can be found on the Internet.

## Membership in the National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution

Any woman 18 years or older—regardless of race, religion, or ethnic background—who can prove lineal descent from a patriot of the American Revolution, is eligible for membership.

[www.dar.org](http://www.dar.org)

***In memory of Nancy Reynolds Tiner for her contribution to the history of the Hispanic Patriots.***



## *Patriots of the American Revolution*

*1776-1783*

§

Honored in the  
Texas State Cemetery  
Austin, Texas

*by the*  
Texas Society  
Daughters of the American  
Revolution  
Lynn Forney Young, State Regent  
March 16, 2009

© 2010 TSDAR